

State of California • Department of Fish and Game Office of Communications, Education & Outreach 1807-13th Street, Suite 104, Sacramento, CA 95811 (916) 322-8911



## **NEWS RELEASE**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact(s): Capt. Lisa Stone, DFG Natural Resource Volunteer Program Statewide

May 17, 2010

Coordinator, (916) 653-7575

Lt. Cindy Adkins, DFG Northern Enforcement District Coordinator,

(530) 225-2268

Lt. Kent Smirl, DFG Southern Enforcement District Coordinator,

(714) 448-4215

DFG Warden Patrick Foy, (916) 651-2084

## DFG Natural Resource Volunteer Program Coming To Northern California, Expanding in Southern California

The Department of Fish and Game (DFG) invites motivated adults who love the outdoors to participate in the Natural Resource Volunteer Program in northern California. Volunteers are needed throughout the Northern Enforcement District, which includes Del Norte, Humboldt, Trinity, Siskiyou, Modoc, Shasta, Lassen, Plumas, Tehama, Butte, Glenn, Colusa, Sutter, Yuba, Sierra, Nevada, Placer, El Dorado, Alpine, Amador, Sacramento and Solano counties. A volunteer academy will be held for new participants June 14-25 in Redding.

The ideal volunteer can commit to serving at least 24 hours of time per month. Volunteers will be assigned to a variety of tasks depending on DFG's needs. Typical volunteer work includes educating the public about preventing negative wildlife encounters, assisting biologists and environmental scientists perform field surveys, patrolling and monitoring DFG lands for evidence of poaching, pollution, illegal collecting and unlawful intrusion, assisting game wardens during season openers and at DFG checkpoints, distributing fishing and hunting regulations, and transporting injured or orphaned wildlife to rehab centers. Volunteers may also assist with hunter education, provide support services at DFG offices or represent DFG at public outreach events.

DFG is looking for people with a variety of skills including clerical, computer, grant writing, mechanical, public speaking and teaching.

The program, which began as the Senior Volunteer Program (SVP) in Southern California in 2001, is now expanding statewide and is no longer restricted to senior participants. The volunteers, who have a wide range of knowledge, experience and backgrounds, have been very helpful to many programs within DFG. Volunteers are not sworn employees of DFG and have no powers of arrest or law enforcement authority.

In the Southern Enforcement District, 11 new volunteers participated in a recent volunteer academy, graduating on April 30. These volunteers will join other DFG volunteers already working in San Diego, Orange and Los Angeles counties.

For more information in northern California, please contact Lt. Cindy Adkins at (530) 225-2268. In Southern California, please contact Lt. Kent Smirl at (714) 448-4215. More information is also available on the DFG website at <a href="https://www.dfg.ca.gov/volunteer">www.dfg.ca.gov/volunteer</a>.

Subscribe to DFG News via email or RSS feed at <a href="www.dfg.ca.gov/news">www.dfg.ca.gov/news</a>.